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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Hattori et al.

Application No. 09/765,865

Filed: January 18, 2001

For: NOVEL PLASMID, BEARING THE
PLASMID, AND METHOD OF
PRODUCING AN ENZYME USING
THE TRANSFORMANT



Art Unit: 1636

Examiner: B. Loeb

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RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated March 26, 2002, please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks.

AMENDMENTS

IN THE TITLE:

- ✓ Replace the title with:
"PLASMID, A TRANSFORMANT BEARING THE PLASMID, AND METHOD
OF PRODUCING AN ENZYME USING THE TRANSFORMANT."

IN THE CLAIMS

Replace claims 1, 4, 5, and 6 with:

1. (Amended) A plasmid comprising a DNA fragment containing a gene coding for an enzyme taking pyrroloquinoline-quinone (PQQ) as the prosthetic group, wherein the plasmid is a broad-host-range vector defective for conjugative transfer function, and the plasmid is expressed in bacteria of the genus *Pseudomonas*.

32
4. (Amended) A transformant comprising the plasmid according to Claim 1 as introduced into a bacterial strain that produces an enzyme taking PQQ as the prosthetic group.